

Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-05 AGR-05

AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 OFA-01

COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01

TRSE-00 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-03 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SAL-01 /119 W

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R 121655Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7706

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMMBASSY PARIS 975

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L DUBLIN 506

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS EI

SUBJ: LOS AND THE IRISH

REF: STATE 54588

1. I MADE DEMARCHE AS INSTRUCTED IN THE REFTEL TO MFA DEPUTY

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SECRETARY ROBERT MCDONOUGH ON MARCH 12, AND POLITICAL OFFICER

DUBOSE HAD A MORE DETAILED SEPARATE SESSION WITH THE SECRETARY OF THE IRISH DELEGATION, MISS GERALDINE SKINNER, ON MARCH 9. ALTHOUGH MCDONOUGH AND SKINNER WERE RATHER CAUTIOUS IN THEIR REMARKS, THEY DID INDICATE THAT THE IRISH SUPPORT MOST US POSITIONS AND IN AREAS OF DISAGREEMENT THEY ARE PREPARED TO COMPROMISE.

2. MCDONOUGH, REPRESENTING THE SENIOR LEVELS OF THE MFA (HE WILL BE ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER FOR A CONSIDERABLE TIME DURING THE LOS NEW YORK SESSION) APPEARS TO BE FULLY AWARE OF THE IMMENSE IMPORTANCE OF THE SUCCESS OF THIS CONFERENCE SESSION, AND I STRESSED TO HIM THE SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH THE USG IS APPROACHING THE SUBJECT. HE DESCRIBED TO ME THE UNUSUALLY ELABORATE (FOR IRELAND) PROCEDURES OF CONSULTATIONS ON LOS INTERNALLY WITHIN THE IRISH GOVERNMENT, WHICH IS NOT ONLY TO RESPOND TO THE VARIOUS INTEREST GROUPS BUT ALSO TO MAKE SURE THAT THE INTEREST GROUPS WILL GO ALONG WITH FINAL DECISIONS ON THE VARIOUS LOS MATTERS. ALTHOUGH A NUMBER OF MINISTRIES ARE INVOLVED, I GET THE IMPRESSION THAT AS USUAL, FOREIGN MINISTER FITZGERALD, WHO TAKES A STRONG PERSONAL INTEREST IN LOS, IS MAKING MOST OF THE DECISIONS.

3. SKINNER TOOK DETAILED NOTES ON OUR LOS PRESENTATION AND HAD ONLY A FEW COMMENTS. SHE SAID THAT THE EXCHANGE HAD BEEN INVALUABLE TO THE IRISH DELEGATION, BUT WOULD HAVE BEEN MORE VALUABLE A FEW WEEKS EARLIER AS INSTRUCTIONS TO THE DELEGATION ARE NOW MOSTLY SET IN CONCRETE. HER COMMENTS:

-- ON THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR DEEP SEABED MINING, IRELAND SUPPORTS THE USG POSITION. SHE ASKED IF OUR "CAREFUL WORDING" ON THE VOTING STRUCTURE IN THE COUNCIL IS THE SAME TEXT PRODUCED BY THE EC COMMISSION. POLOFF REPLIED THAT HE DID NOT KNOW.

-- COMMITTEE II, MIGRATORY SPECIES: SKINNER SAID THE IRISH HAVE A VITAL INTEREST IN THIS AREA (SALMON) AND WOULD WANT TO KNOW THE DETAILED US PROPOSALS BEFORE COMMITTING ITSELF.

-- THE IRISH FULLY SUPPORT THE CONCEPT OF THE HIGH SEAS CHARACTER OF THE 200 MILE ECONOMIC ZONE.

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AA THE IRISH HAVE A MAJOR DISAGREEMENT WITH THE US ON COASTAL STATE JURISDICTION OVER THE CONTINENTAL MARGIN. IRELAND'S SHELF EXTENDS BEYOND 200 MILES IN SEVERAL LOCALES. THE NATURAL-RESOURCE-POOR IRISH CANNOT AFFORD TO GIVE IN ON THIS ISSUE, SHE SAID, BUT WILL CERTAINLY BE WILLING TO LISTEN TO ANY PROPOSALS.

-- ON THE QUESTION OF LAND-LOCKED VERSUS COASTAL, THE GOI

DELEGATION HAS BEEN UNABLE TO GET INTRA-GOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT ON A POLICY AND THUS HAS NO INSTRUCTIONS. THE PROBLEM HERE, SHE SAID, IS THAT THERE IS A COMPLICATED WRANGLE GOING ON IN THE EC AND THE IRISH WANT TO SEE HOW THE LAND LAYS BEFORE DECIDING UPON A POSITION.

-- THE IRISH ARE STRONGLY IN FAVOR OF A "CONSENT" REGIME FOR MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH. "WE CANNOT HAVE FUNNY LITTLE MEN OFF OUR COASTS IN FROG SUITS DOING FUNNY THINGS - WE HAVE TO KNOW WHAT THEY ARE DOING." SHE DID SAY THAT WITH INGNUITY WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO WORK SOMETHING OUT.

-- THE GOI SUPPORTS THE USG POSITION ON MARINE POLLUTION AND DISPUTE SETTLEMENT.

4. THE IRISH DELEGATION DEPARTS FOR NW YORK MARCH 13. IT WILL CONSIST OF:

AMBASSADOR C. C. CREMIN, CHIEF OF DELEGATION
MR MAHON HAYES, DEPUTY CHIEF OF DELEGATION (MFA LEGAL COUNSEL)
MR . O'NEALLAIN - AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES
MR FINUCONE, NATIONAL SCIENCE COUNCIL
DR ROBINSON, GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
DR GARDNER, GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
MR WILLIAM ANTHONY MOORE, DEFENSE MINISTRY
MISS GERALDINE SKINNER, SECRETARY OF DELEGATION (MFA ASST. LEGAL ADVISOR)
MR E. O'KELLEY (CHAIRMAN OF FISHERIES BOARD), ADVISOR
MR NASON, 1ST SECRETARY, IRISH UN MISSION

5. MAHON HAYES, KEY MAN IN THE DELEGATION, PROMISED TO CONTACT THE US DELEGATION ON MONDAY, MARCH 15, TO ARRANGE FOR CONSULTATIONS. HE WOULD LIKE TO TALK TO MR. OXNAM IN THE US DELGATION.
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